

Unit 4 First Reader

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

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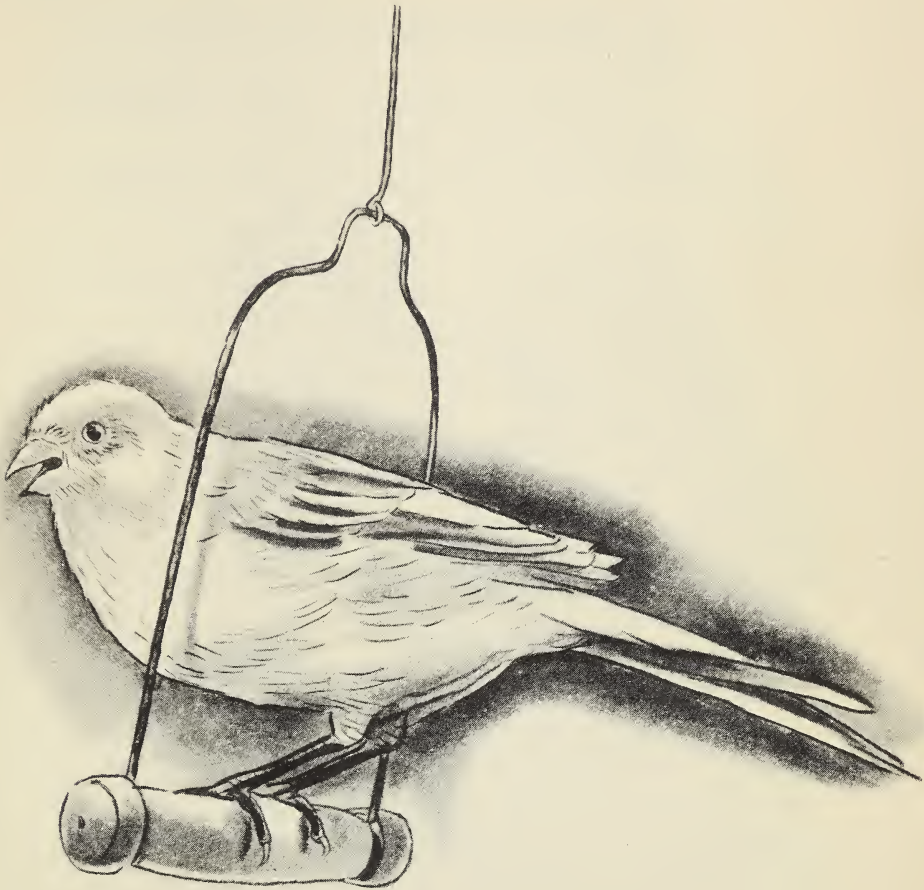
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Published September, 1939.

N. W. Dickie

Sing, Canary, Sing!



Canary Gets a Home

One afternoon in the spring
Father came home with a box.

It was a present for Anne.

"Open it, Anne," said Mother.

"Open your present."



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The present was a canary.

It was a little yellow canary,
and it lived in a little cage
made of wood.

"Oh, Father!" cried Anne.

"Thank you! Thank you!

I have always wanted a canary."



Mother looked at the canary.

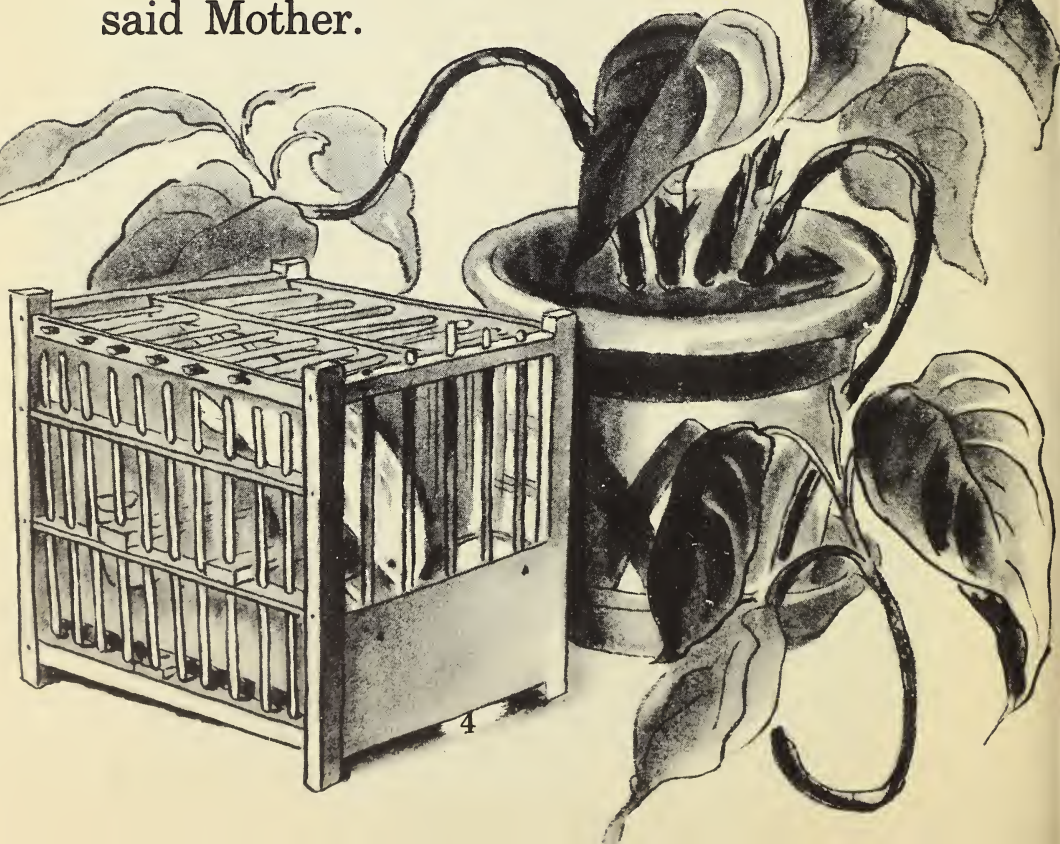
"Anne, this cage is too little,"
said Mother.

"Your canary can not live
in a little cage like this."

"He would like a big cage,"
said Anne.

"I know he would!"

"We will get one tomorrow,"
said Mother.





The next morning Mother and Anne went to get a new cage.

The little yellow canary stayed at home.

"Good-by, Canary," said Anne.

"Be good until I come back."

Anne and her mother went to a little shop.

There were many cages in the shop.

Anne looked at them all.

"I would like this one," she said to the man.

It was a fine big cage.

In it were two white cups.

One cup would hold water.

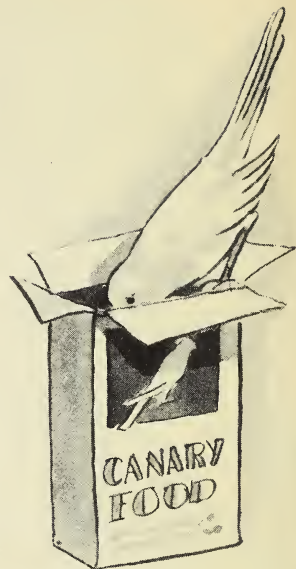
The other cup would hold seeds.

"Oh, Mother, we have no seeds for the canary!" said Anne.

Mother said, "We have to get a box of canary seed."

They got the box of seed.

"Now we are ready to go home," said Mother.



Anne came into the house.

"Canary! Canary!" said Anne.

"I have a new cage for you."

"Peep! Peep!" said the canary.

Anne put the cage on the table.

Then she put water in one
of the little white cups.

And she put seeds in the other
little white cup.

"Oh, Mother, what is this?"
asked Anne.

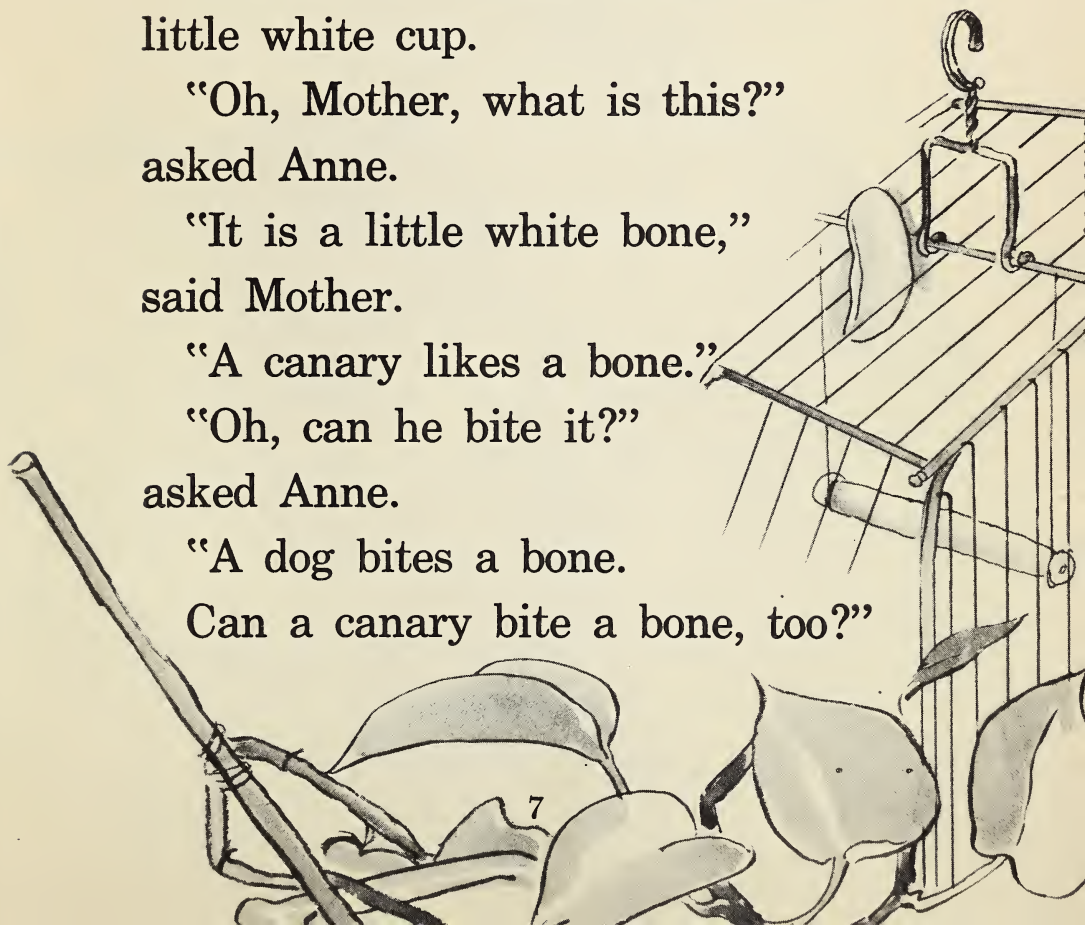
"It is a little white bone,"
said Mother.

"A canary likes a bone."

"Oh, can he bite it?"
asked Anne.

"A dog bites a bone.

Can a canary bite a bone, too?"



"No," said Mother.

"A canary has no teeth.

He has to bite the bone
with his bill.

It is good for his bill."

When the cage was ready,
Anne put the yellow canary
into his new home.



Anne watched the canary.

At first he was afraid.

He was afraid of the big cage.

He was afraid of the white cups.

And he was afraid of the bone.



The little yellow canary said,
"Peep! Peep! Peep!"

He put up his head and looked
at Anne with his black eyes.

"Every thing is all right, Canary,"
said Anne.

"Do not be afraid."

So the little yellow canary
hopped slowly around his new cage.

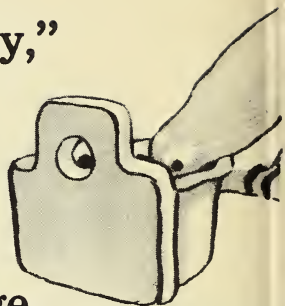
Anne watched him.


He hopped up on one white cup
and put his bill down into the water.

"Peep! Peep! How good!"
said the little yellow canary.

He hopped up on the other cup
and put his bill down into the seeds.

"Peep! Peep! How very good!"
said the little yellow canary.





At the roof of the cage were
two swings.

The yellow canary looked up
at the swings.

He said, "Peep! Peep! Peep!
Could I swing? Could I swing?"

Anne watched.

Up flew the canary.

Up, up, and on the swing!

At first he went slowly.

Then he went faster and faster.

He jumped from one swing
to the other swing.

Now he was not afraid.

What fun the swings were!

"Canary, I know you are glad
to be here in your fine new cage,"
said Anne.



When Father came home, he saw the canary in the new cage.

"Did he sing for you, Anne?" asked Father.

"No, Father," said Anne.

"At first he was afraid of his cage.

He is not afraid now.

So I know that he will sing."

Father and Anne watched
the little yellow canary.

"Sing, Canary, sing!" said Anne.

Father laughed and said,
"I will sing to him.

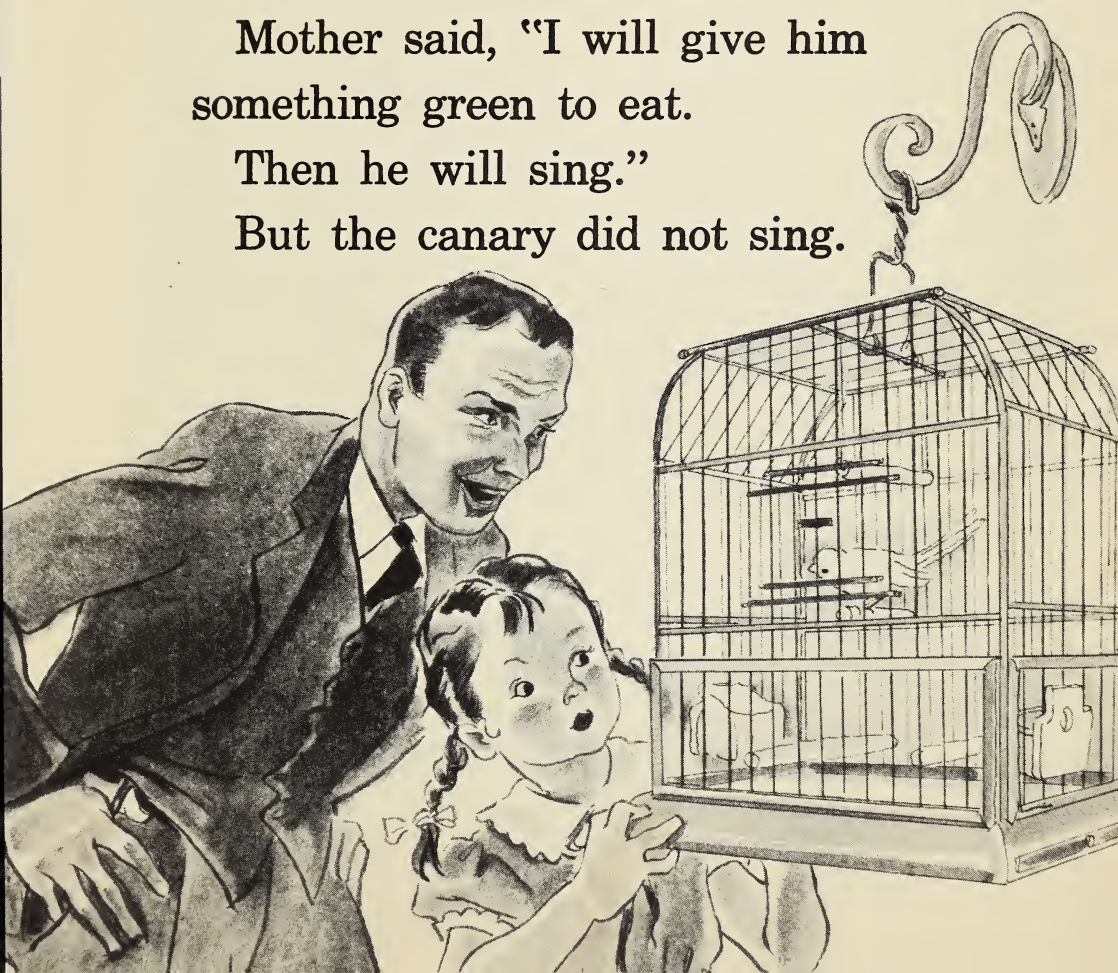
Then he will sing to me."

But the canary did not sing.

Mother said, "I will give him
something green to eat.

Then he will sing."

But the canary did not sing.



Every day Anne watched
the little yellow canary.

She had to clean his cage.

She put clean water in one
of the white cups.

She put seeds in the other cup.

She saw the canary swing.

She saw him bite his white bone.

But still he did not sing.

One fine spring afternoon
Anne put the cage
in the open window.

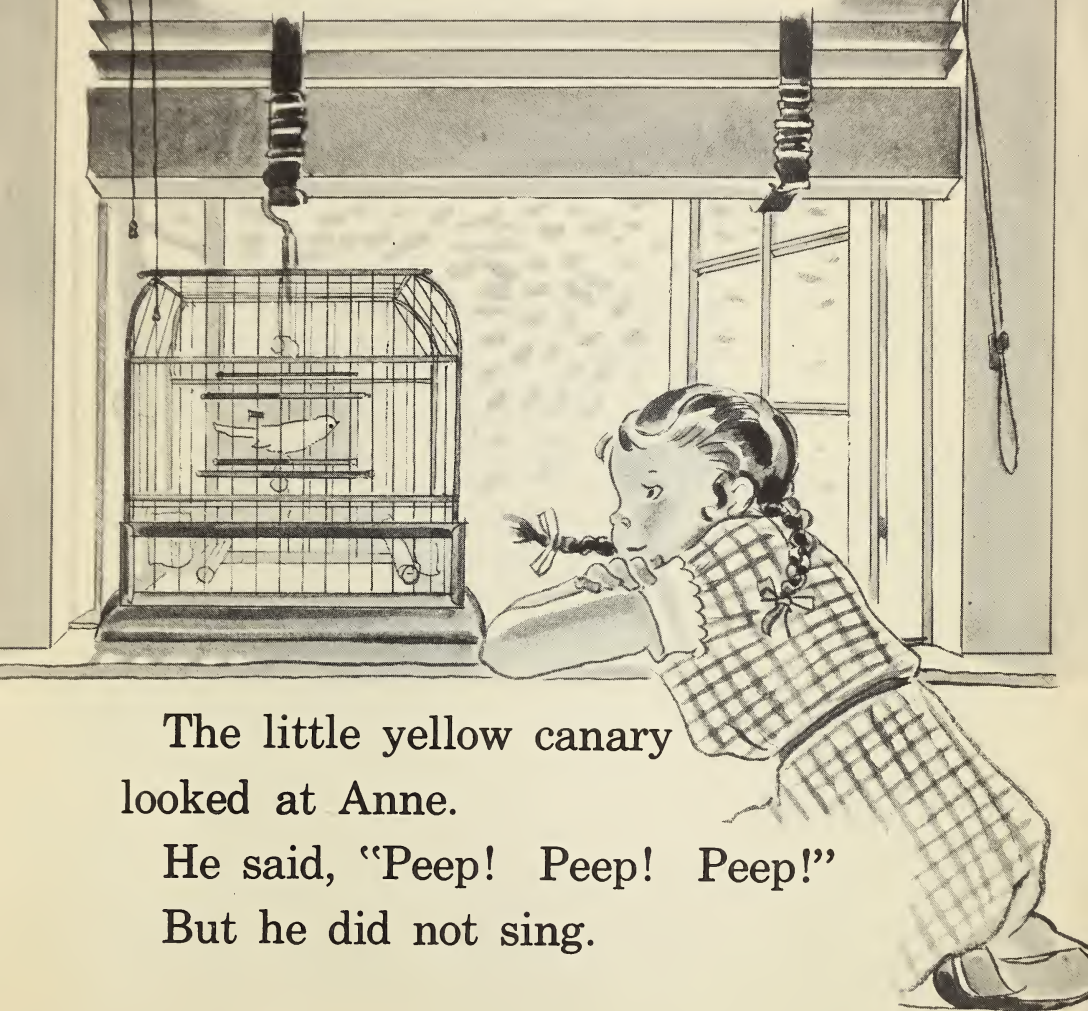
Children rode their bicycles
up and down the street.

They played games, too.

The trees were green,
and robins flew by.

Every where it was spring!

"Oh, Canary!" cried Anne.
"Spring is here!
Tell me that you are glad.
Sing, Canary, sing!"



The little yellow canary
looked at Anne.

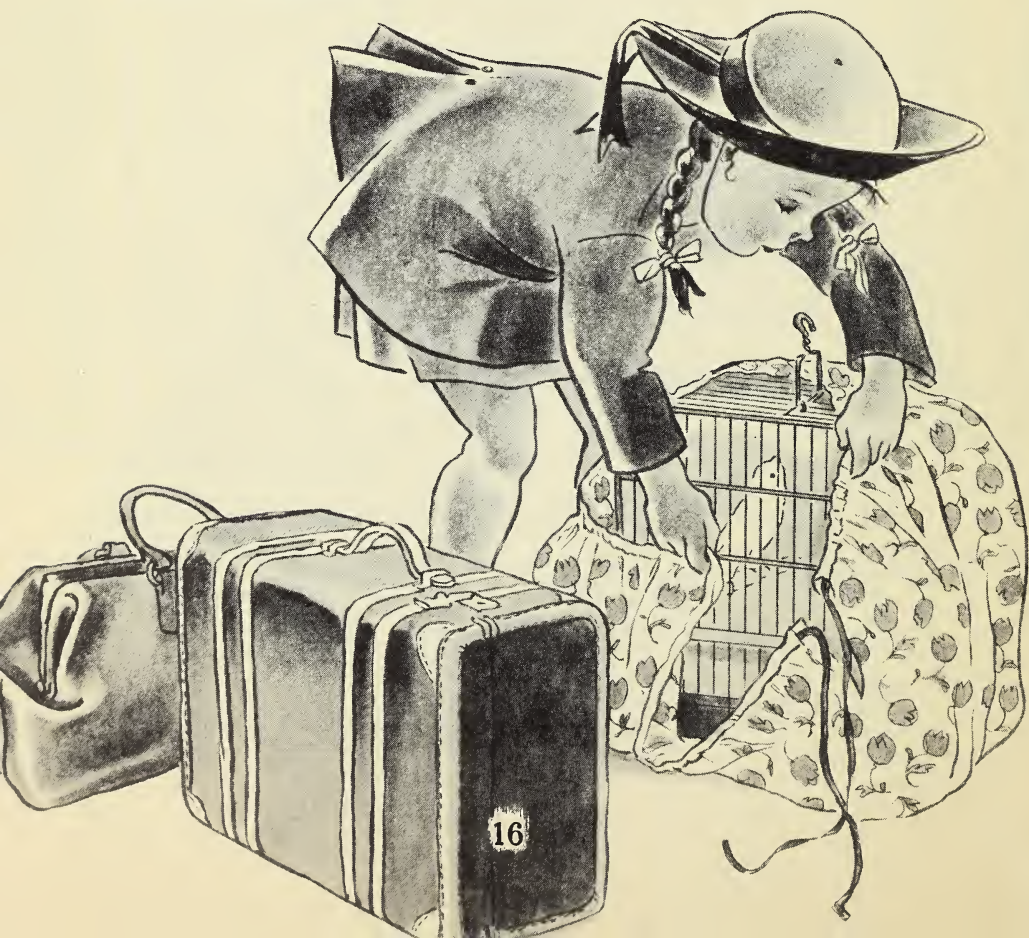
He said, "Peep! Peep! Peep!"
But he did not sing.

Canary at the Farm

Every summer Anne went to the farm.

She went to see her grandmother and her grandfather every year.

She always stayed on the farm four weeks.

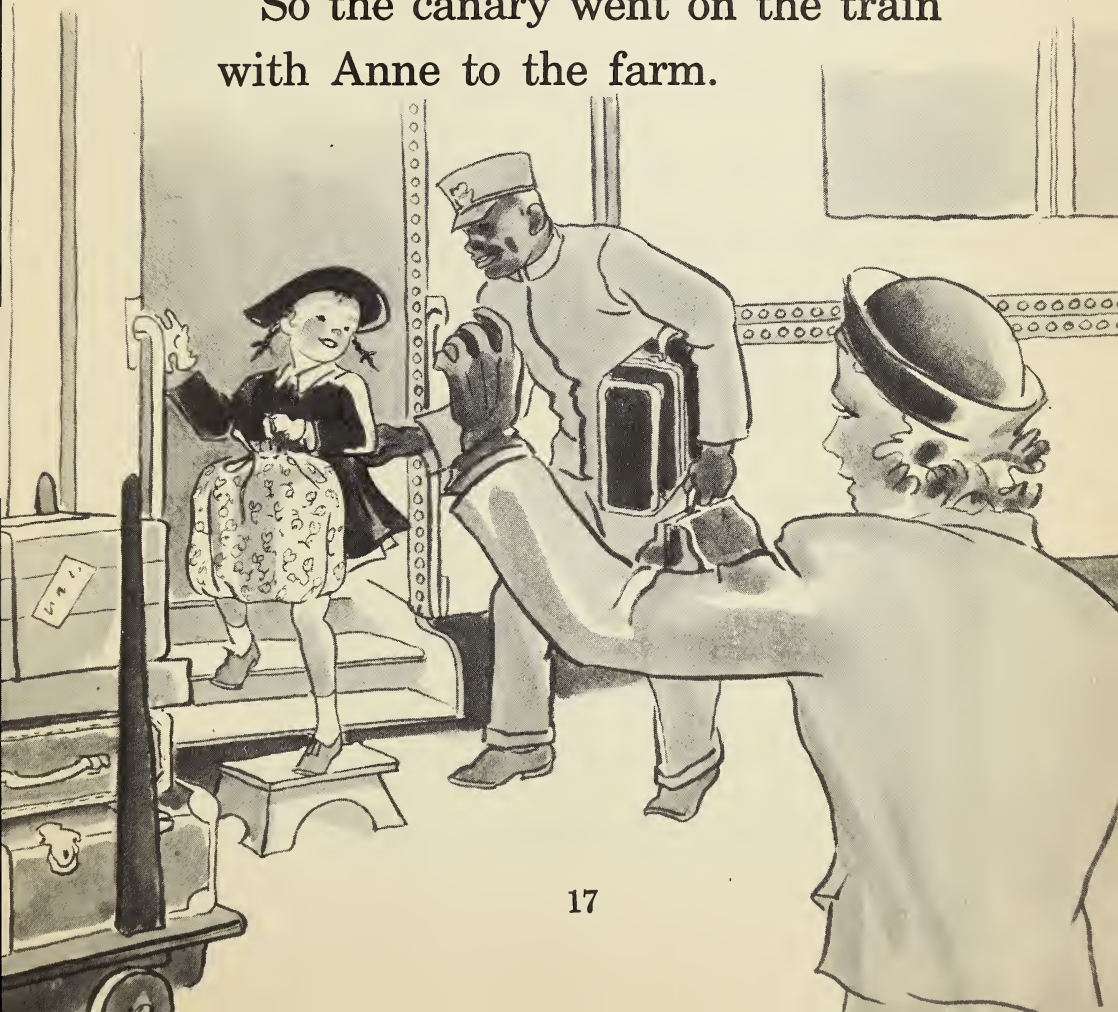


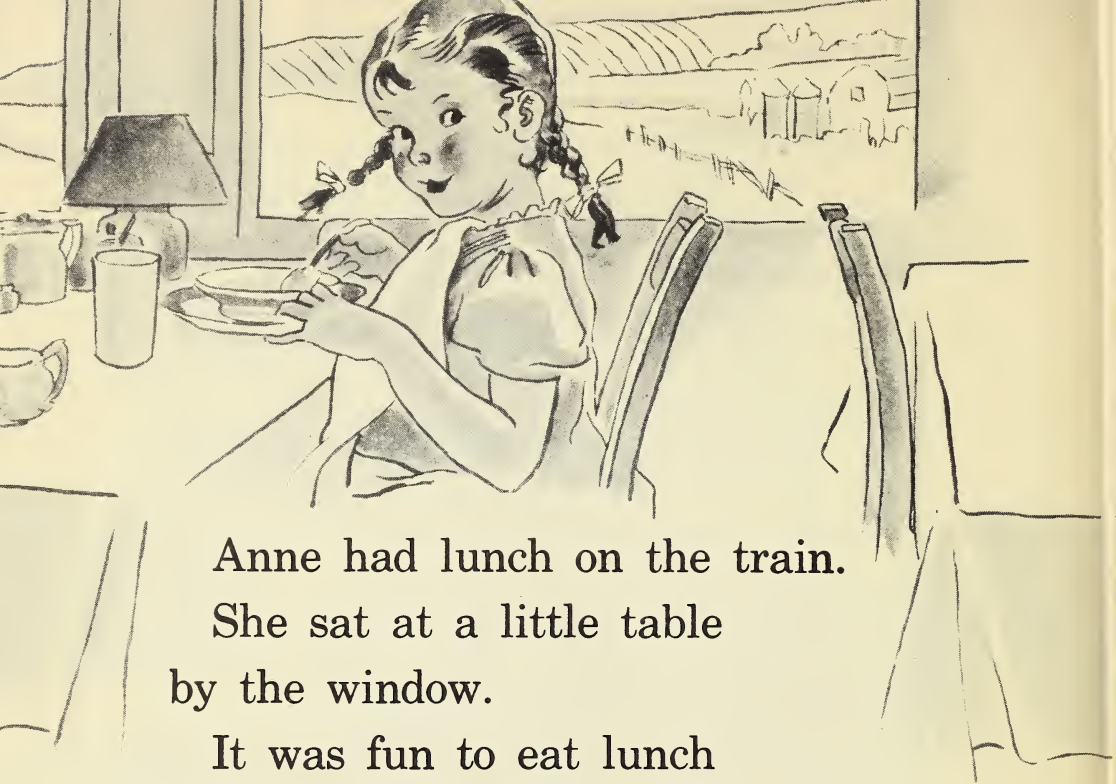
This year Anne took
the yellow canary to the farm.

"I want to take him with me,"
Anne said to her mother.

"Then if he sings, I will be
right there."

So the canary went on the train
with Anne to the farm.





Anne had lunch on the train.
She sat at a little table
by the window.

It was fun to eat lunch
and look out at the woods
and the fields.

Some times the train went
by villages.

Anne could see children
in the villages.

They rode their bicycles
and played games.

Grandfather met Anne
at the train.

He took her to the farm
in the big wagon.

Anne always liked to ride in it.

"How is Grandmother?"
asked Anne.

"Fine!" said Grandfather.

"She wants to see the canary."

"Oh, Grandfather, I want
to tell you about this canary!"
said Anne.

"He never sings."

"What!" cried Grandfather.

"A canary that never sings!

We will have to do something
about that.

A canary always sings!"



Grandmother met Anne
at the door.

"I am so glad to see you!"
she said.

"And how is the canary?"

"He is fine," said Anne

"But he never sings."

"What!" cried Grandmother.

"A canary that never sings!
I know what to do about that."



"Oh, Grandmother!" cried Anne.

"Tell me what to do."

"When I was a little girl,
I had a canary," said Grandmother.

"He came from a shop.

There were many animals
in this shop.

And my canary was very sad
when he went away from his friends."

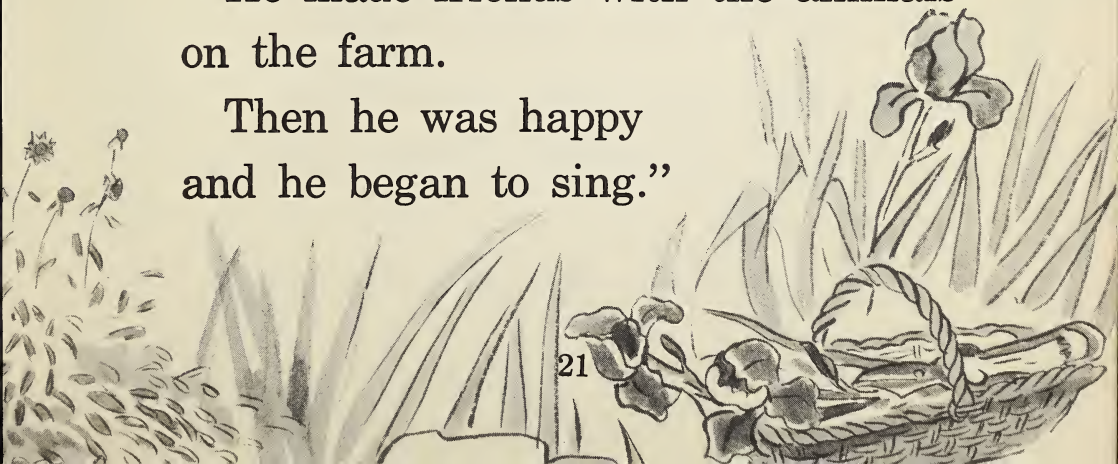
Anne said, "Was he so sad
that he could not sing?"

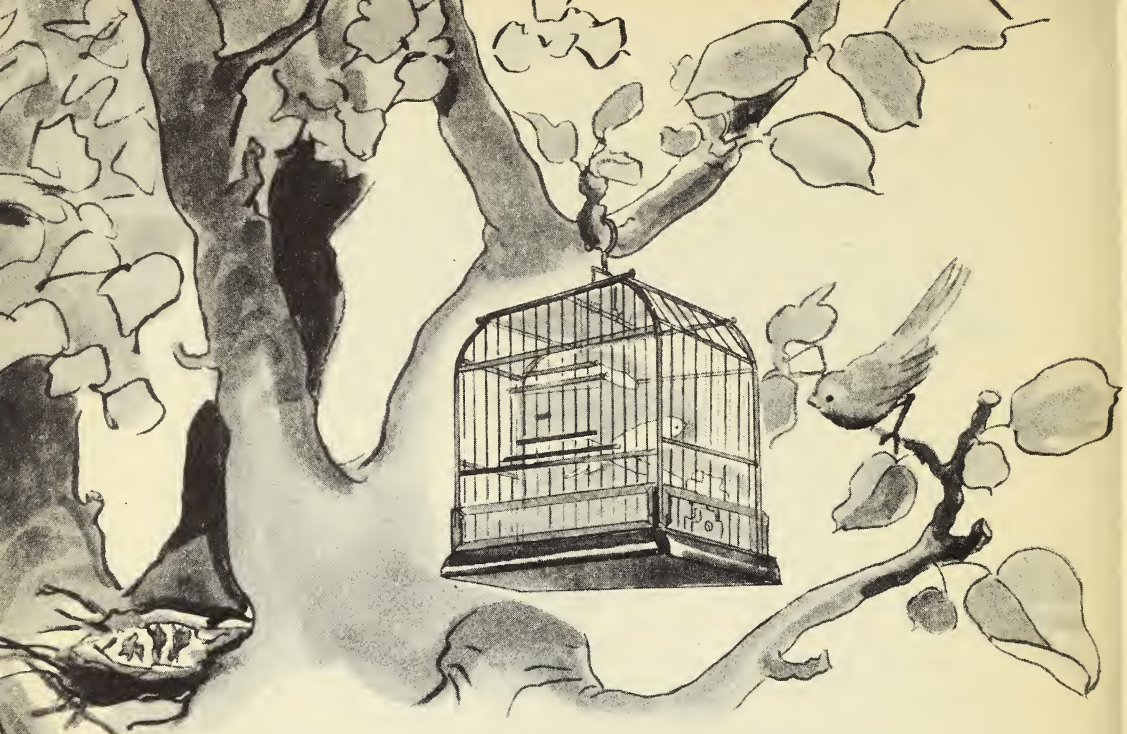
"Yes," said Grandmother.

"But I had my canary a week
when he began to sing.

He made friends with the animals
on the farm.

Then he was happy
and he began to sing."





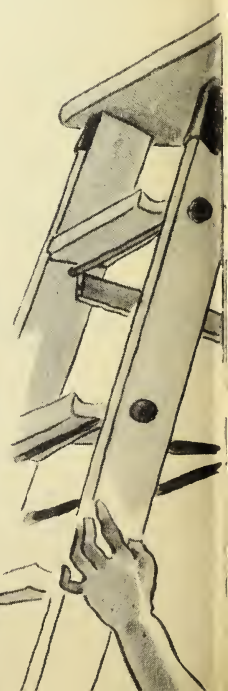
"Oh, Grandmother, how fine!"
said Anne.

"I will take the canary
out to the apple tree.

He can see the robins make
their nests with mud and sticks.

And the robins will come and sing
to him.

They will tell him not to be sad."



Anne sat under the apple tree
and watched her canary.

Robins had a nest in that tree.
It was a good nest made
of mud and sticks.

In it were four baby robins.
The mother robin flew
to the tree with things
for the baby robins to eat.

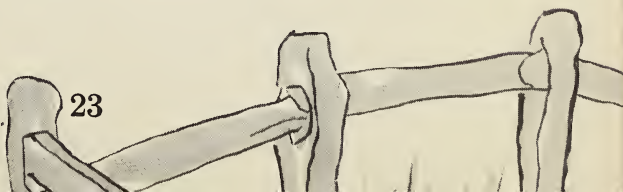
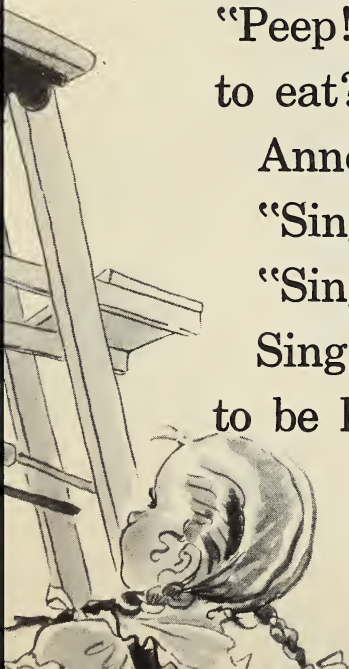
Once she flew to the cage.
She looked in and said,
"Peep! Peep! What do you like
to eat?"

Anne laughed.

"Sing, Canary!" said Anne.

"Sing to the robin.

Sing and tell her you are glad
to be here."



Every day Anne took the cage
to the apple tree.

But the canary did not sing.
Some times the bees flew by.

Zzzzz! Zzzzz! Zzzzz!

Canary looked up at them.

"Are you afraid the bees
will sting you?" asked Anne.

"Do not be afraid.

They will not sting you."





One day Grandmother made some overalls for Anne.

They were blue overalls and they had big pockets.

Anne put on the overalls with the big pockets and went out to the fields.

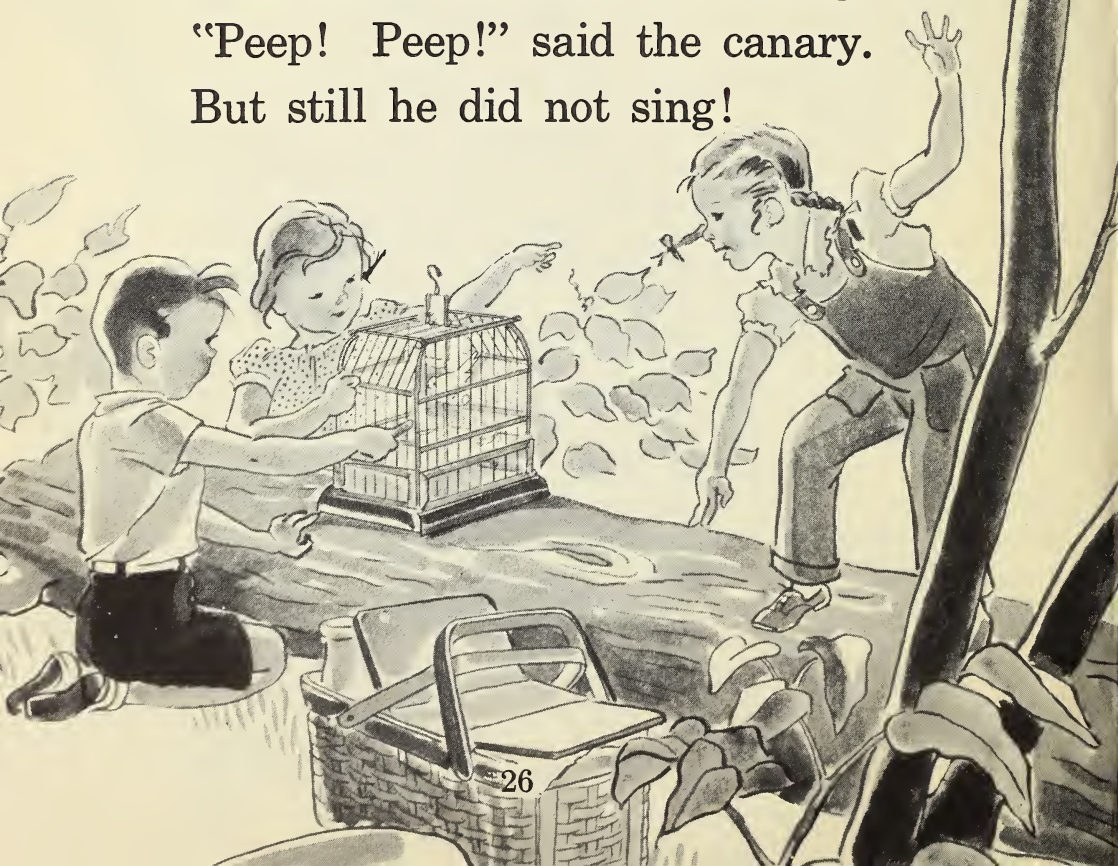
She wanted to see Grandfather plowing the fields.


"I will take Canary," she said.

"He will want to see the horses plowing."



Another day Anne went
to the woods with some children.
They took their lunch.
Canary went, too.
Anne put the cage on a log.
"Look at me, Canary!" she said.
"I am going to jump.
I am going to jump off this log."
"Peep! Peep!" said the canary.
But still he did not sing!





Anne had a happy summer
on the farm.

Every day she did some work
in the house for Grandmother.

Every day she did some work
in the barns and the fields
for Grandfather.

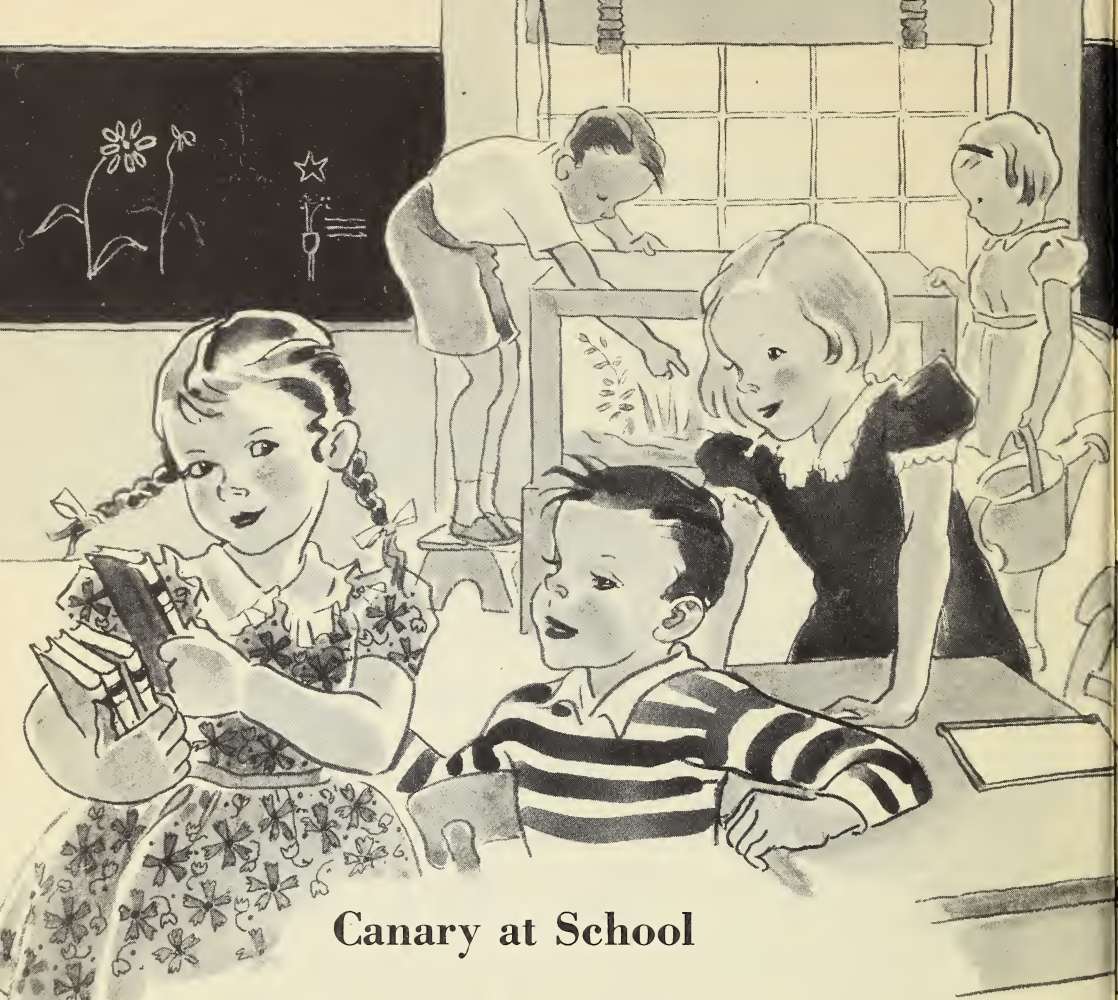
And every day she took
the little yellow canary to see
all the animals on the farm.

But never once did he sing!
Grandfather laughed at him.

"What a funny canary you are!"
he said.

But Grandmother said, "Some day
he will sing."

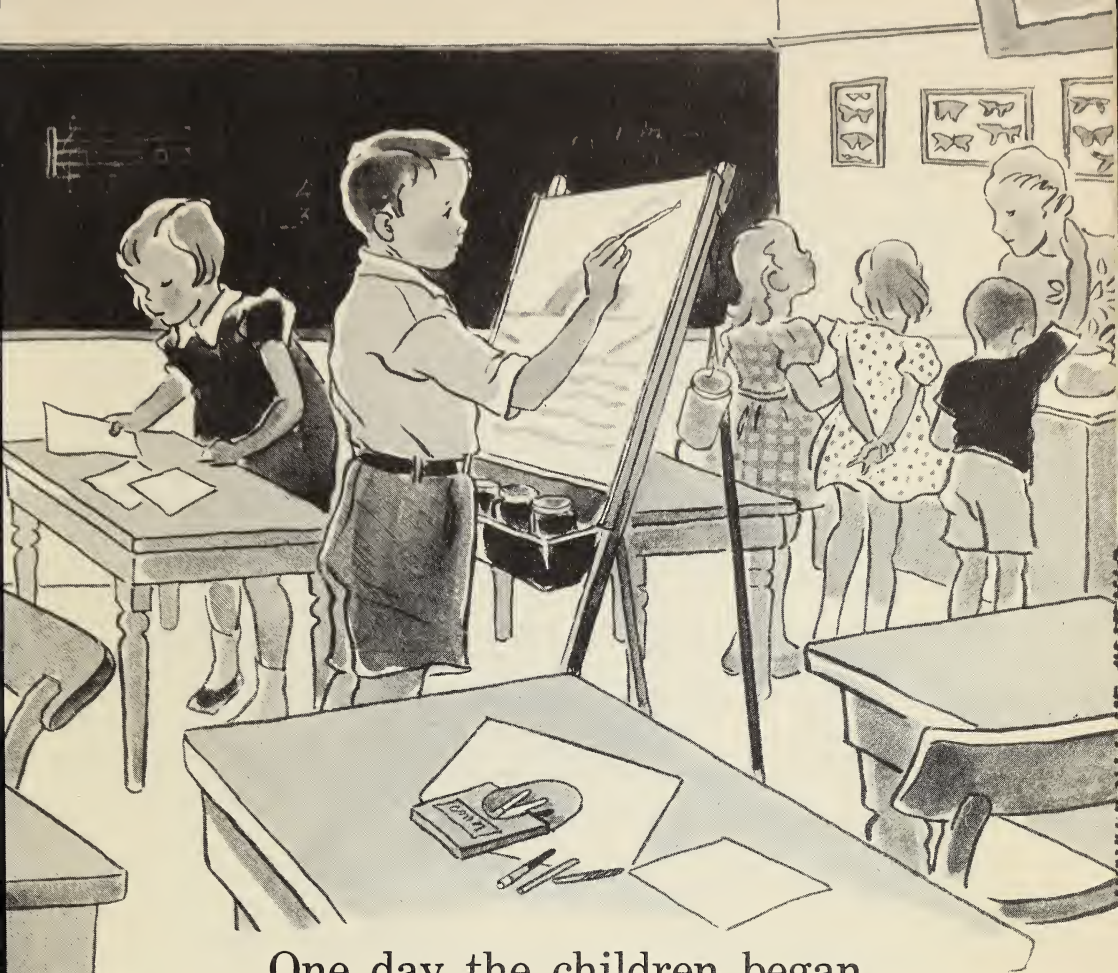
When he gets ready,
he will sing."



Canary at School

In the fall Anne went back
to school.

She was glad to see her friends.
And all the girls and boys
were glad to see Anne.



One day the children began to tell stories in school.

They said to Anne, "Tell us a story."

So Anne said, "I will tell you about my little yellow canary."

"I have a little yellow canary,"
said Anne.

"But he never sings.

I took him to the farm
this summer to see
my grandmother and grandfather.

And my grandmother said
that when my canary made friends,
he would sing.

I put his cage in the apple tree,
but he did not make friends
with the robins.

I took him to the barn,
but he did not make friends
with the cows.

I took him to the fields,
but he did not make friends
with the horses."



"My canary just will not sing,"
said Anne.

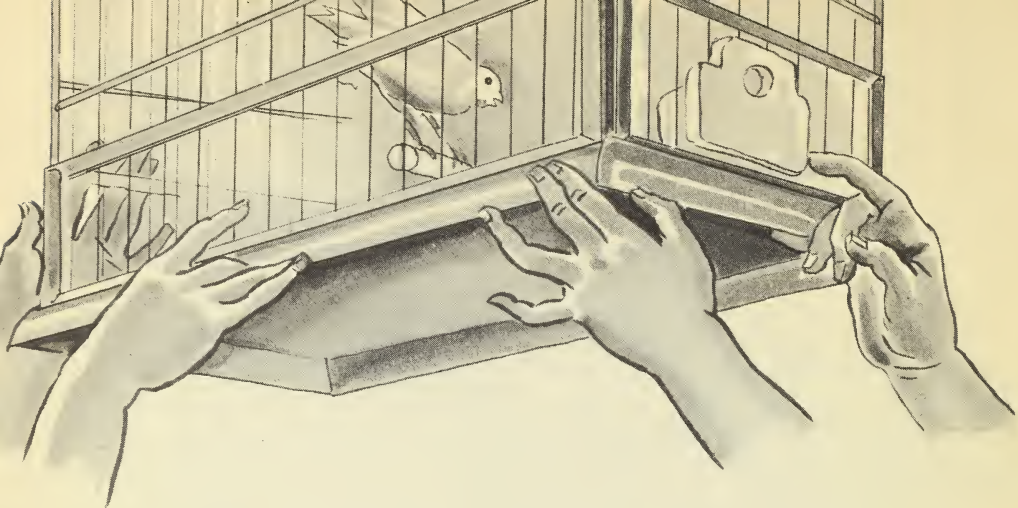
"What can I do now?"

And all the children said,

"What can you do?"

Then one of them said,

"Let the canary come to school."



So the very next day
the yellow canary came to school.

The children saw his cage
and the two white cups.

They saw the two swings
and the white bone.

They wanted to know what
the canary liked to eat.

They wanted to know what
the bone was for.

And they wanted to know
how to clean the cage.

The little yellow canary came
to school every day.

Anne put his cage in the window.

He looked at the children
with his black eyes.

“Peep! Peep! I can see
every thing that you do!”
said the little yellow canary.

One day in the fall he saw
some fat yellow pumpkins.

Anne had one of the fat pumpkins.

The little canary watched to see
what she would do with it.

First Anne cut two eyes
in the pumpkin.

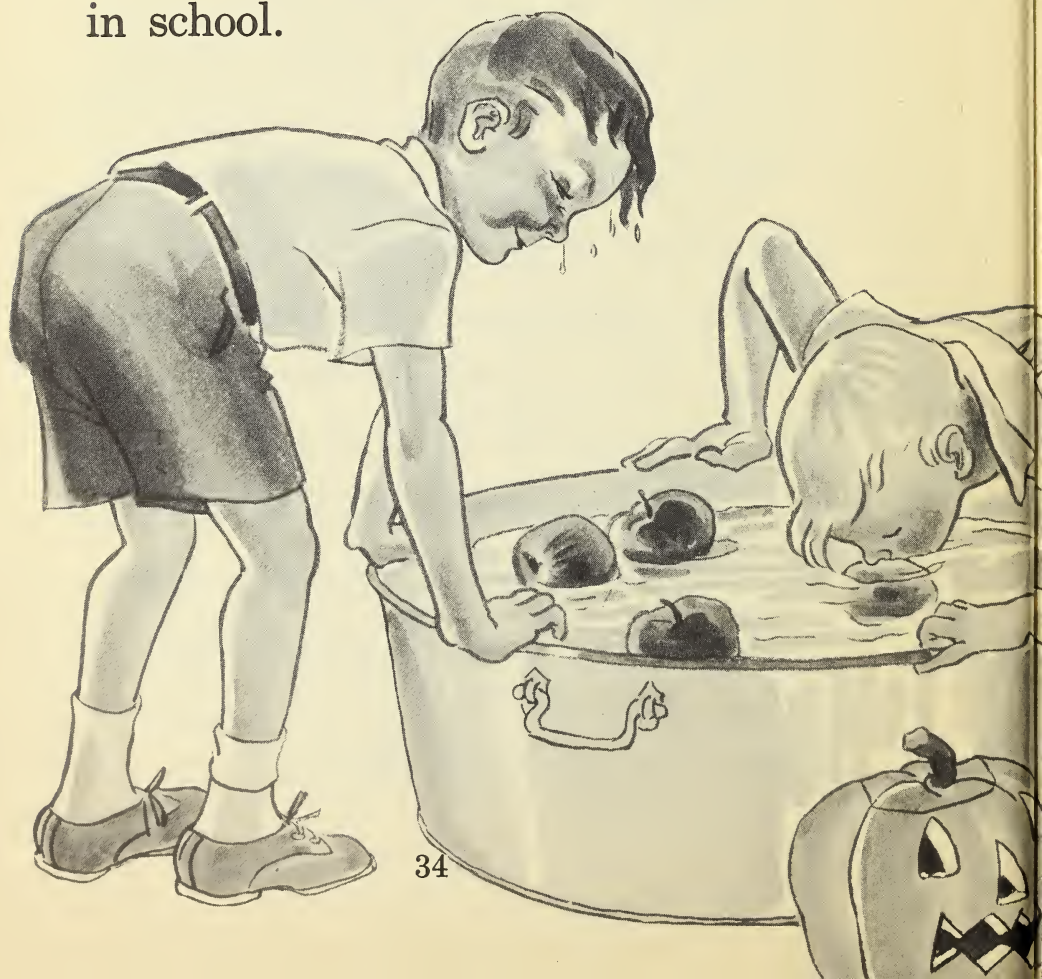
Then she cut a funny nose.

And then she cut
some very funny teeth.

Anne made the pumpkin
into a fine jack-o'-lantern.

All the children made
pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns.

It was Halloween,
and they were going to have fun
in school.



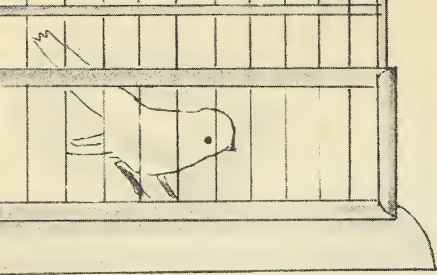
The children played
Halloween games in school.

They played this game
with apples in the water.

It was good fun.

The children laughed and laughed
when they could not get the apples
out of the water.





They played this Halloween game
with apples, too.

The apples rolled and rolled.

This game was fun, too.

The little yellow canary watched
the apples roll.

He said, "Peep! Peep! Peep!
Halloween is fun!"

Then one of the children said,
"I know what to do.

Let us sing to the canary.

Let us sing about jack-o'-lanterns
and fun on Halloween."

So the children began to sing.

The little yellow canary hopped
up and down in his cage.

"Peep! Peep! Peep!"
said the canary.

Anne looked at him.

She was very sad.

"He will never sing,"
she said slowly.

"I am afraid he will never sing.

Sing, Canary, sing!

Please sing, just for me."

But still the canary did not sing.



The Canary Sings

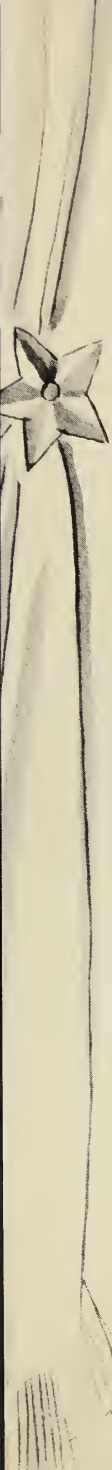
Every day in the winter
Anne looked for snow.

She looked out of her window
the first thing in the morning.

One winter morning she looked out
and she saw snow.

Every thing was white.

It was very cold.



“Anne, how would you like to get a snow suit?” asked Mother.

“Oh, Mother,” cried Anne.

“I would like one!

All the girls wear snow suits.”

So Anne put on her coat and cap and went to the store with Mother.

They looked at red suits and blue suits and brown suits.

Anne did not know which one to take.

“Put them all on,” said the girl in the store.

So Anne put on the brown suit.

Then she put on the red suit.

And then she put on the blue suit.

“I like the red one best,” said Anne.

"I will send it to you
this afternoon," said the girl.

"Oh, no!" cried Anne.

"I want to take it home.

Can I wear it, Mother?

I want to play in the snow
when I get home."

"Yes, Anne," said Mother.



That afternoon some girls
came over to play with Anne.

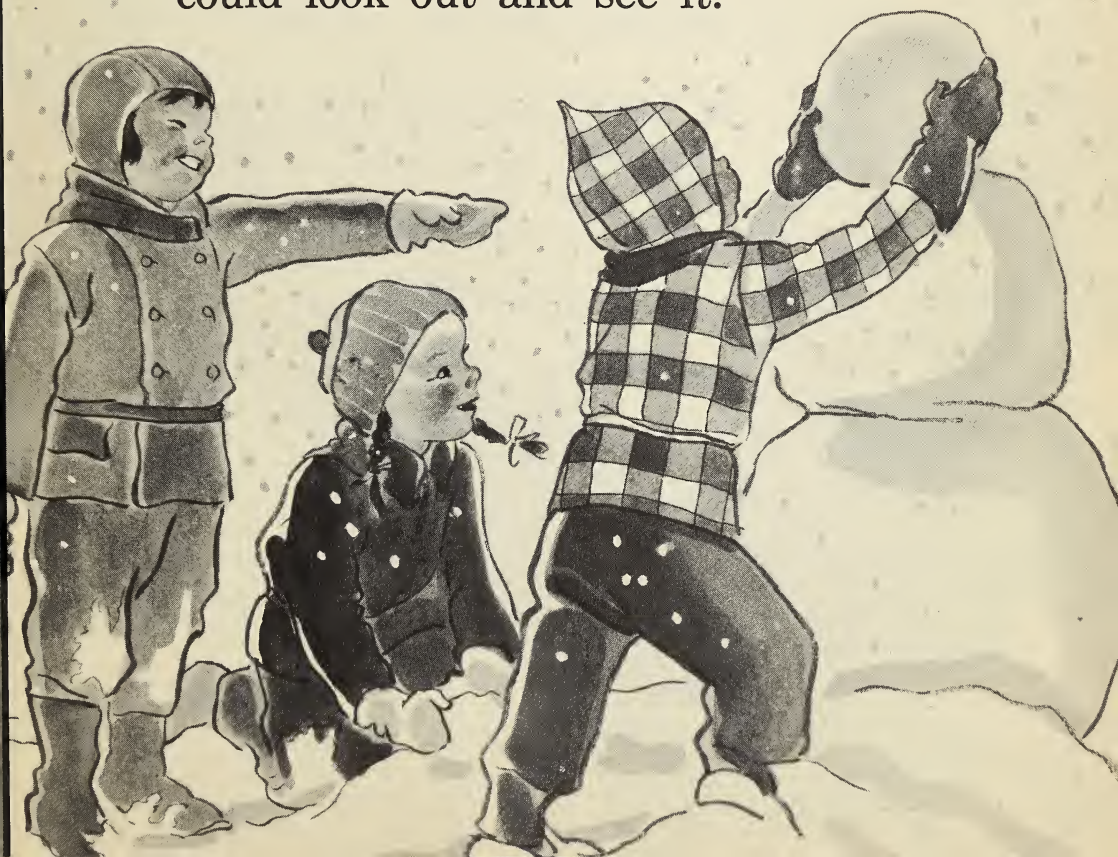
They all liked her new snow suit.

"Put it on, Anne," they said.

"We want to play in the snow.

We want to make a snow man."

The girls made the snow man
by the house so that the canary
could look out and see it.



The next day was very cold.
Father did not have to go
to work that day.

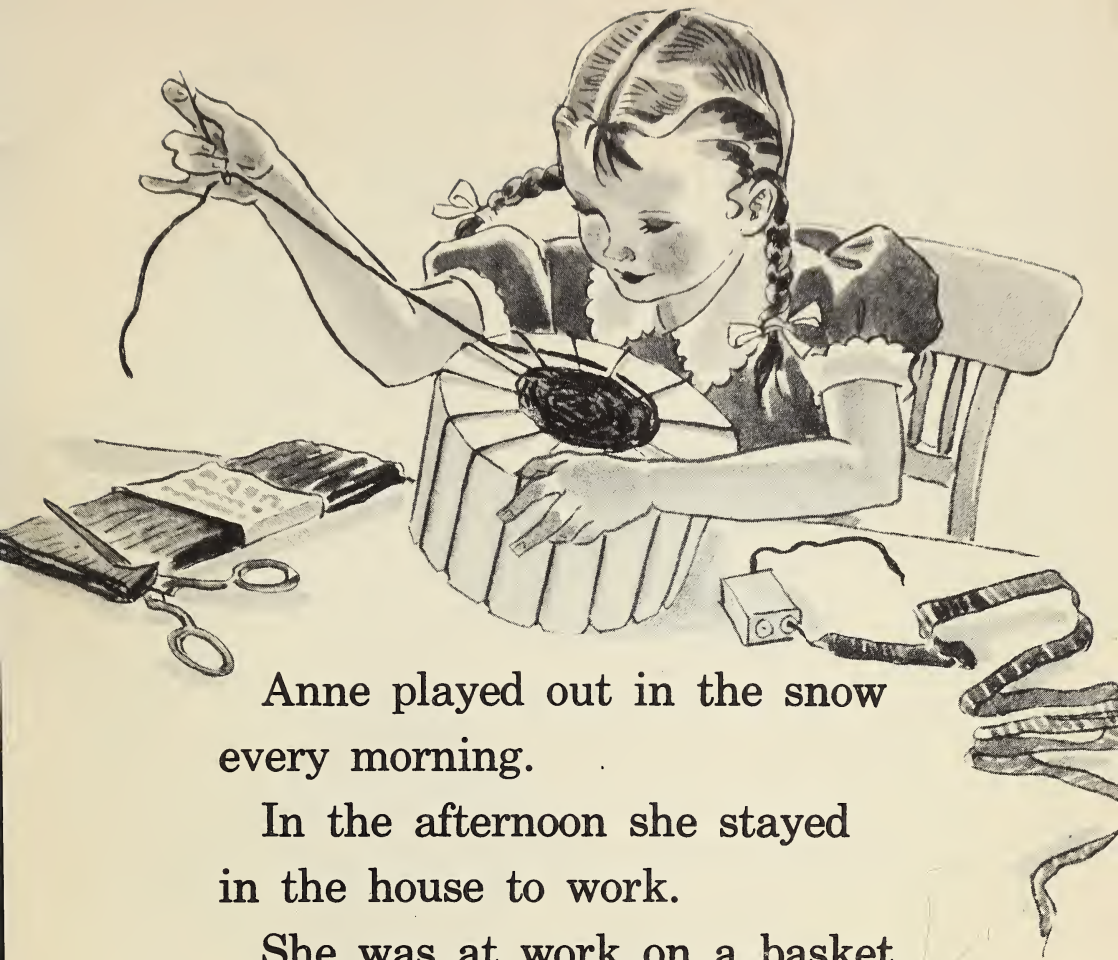
"Come out for a ride,"
he said to Anne.

"I will be your horse."

Father pulled Anne.

Anne laughed and said,
"Whoa, horse! Whoa! Whoa!"





Anne played out in the snow every morning.

In the afternoon she stayed in the house to work.

She was at work on a basket.

It was a Christmas present for Mother.

"Mother can put all kinds of things in this basket," said Anne.

Anne was at work
on a Christmas present
for Father, too.

It was a box for his letters.

When the box was ready,
Anne painted it green.

Then she painted LETTERS
in black on the box.

It looked very fine.





One long day and then another
and then it was Christmas!

On Christmas morning Anne
ran down to see the tree.

Under the tree were
her presents and the presents
for Mother and Father.

Anne liked all her presents.

She was very happy.

Father liked his letter box,
and Mother liked her basket.

"Thank you, Anne!" they said.

Then Father said, "Anne, here is
another present for you.

You can open the present."

In the box was a big cage
and in the cage was
another yellow canary!

"Why, Father!" cried Anne.

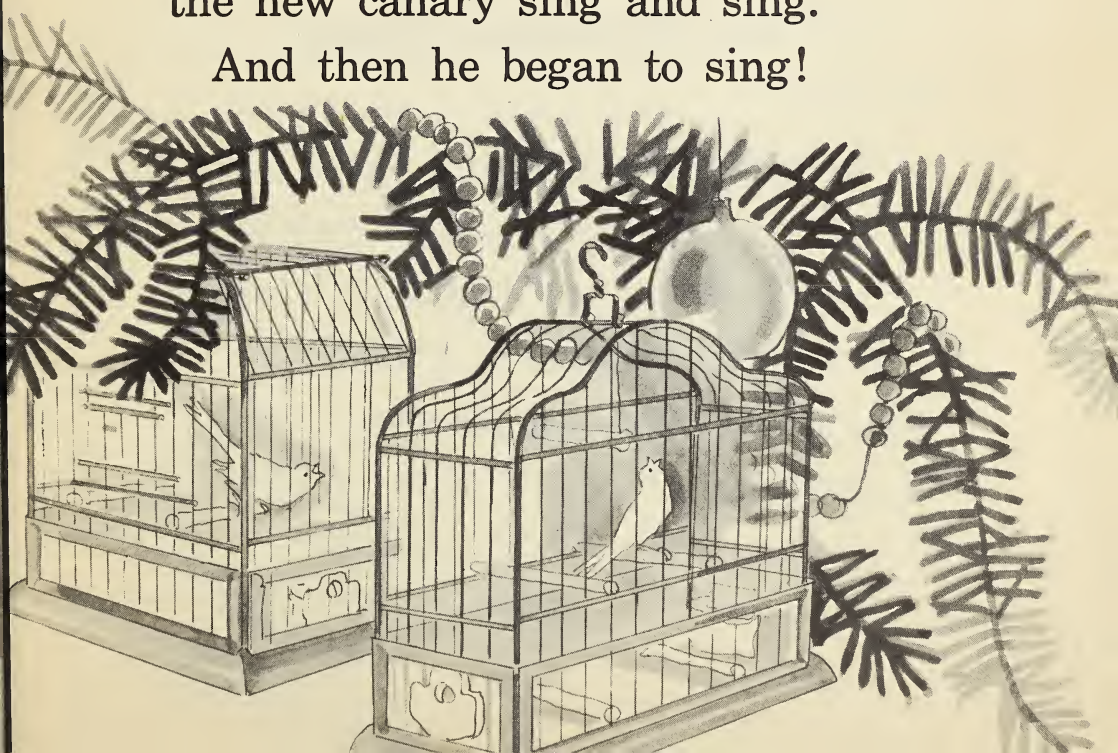
"This is another canary!"

"Yes," said Father.

"I went back to the shop
where I got the first canary.

They said if I got another canary,
the first one would sing."

Anne ran to get her canary.
She put the two cages
under the Christmas tree.
“Sing, Canary,” she said
to the new canary.
The new canary began to sing.
The first canary looked
and looked at the new canary.
“Sing, Canary, sing!” cried Anne.
The first little canary watched
the new canary sing and sing.
And then he began to sing!



Anne.

"My canary can sing!

I am so happy.

This is the best Christmas present
of all!

Thank you, Father."

Anne put the two cages
in the window.

She went over to the new cage.

"Sing, Canary, sing!" she said.

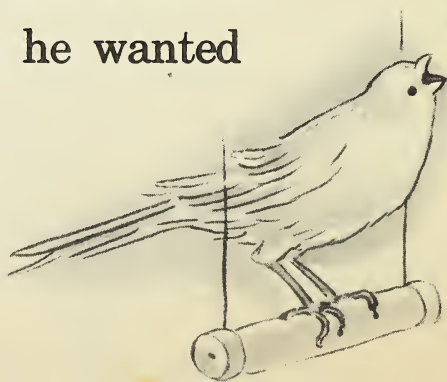
And the new canary began
to sing.

Then she went to the other cage.

"Sing, sing, sing!" said Anne.

And that canary began to sing.

Now that he had a friend
that could sing, he wanted
to sing, too!





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SING CANARY SING

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Word List

The following list contains the words, forty-eight in number, with the exception of the proper names *Hank* and *Tom*, occurring in Unit Four of the First Reader, *Down Our Street*, and ten additional words introduced in *Sing, Canary, Sing!*, preceded in the word list by an asterisk. If *Sing, Canary, Sing!*, therefore, is read subsequent to the reading of the fourth unit of *Down Our Street*, all words introduced in Unit Four of the First Reader, with the exception of the proper names *Hank* and *Tom*, will be reviewed, and the new vocabulary will comprise ten words.

The words are grouped here under the pages on which they first appear.

1	9	17	25	35
*canary	afraid	take	overalls	36
*sing	watched	18	plowing	rolled
2	10	fields	pockets	37
afternoon	eyes	lunch	26	38
*Anne	hopped	sat	another	cold
open	slowly	19	jump	snow
spring	11	20	log	winter
3	could	21	27	39
*cage	*swings	22	28	40
4	12	began	fall	41
5	13	23	29	42
stayed	14	apple	30	whoa
6	*games	mud	31	43
*cups	robins	nest	32	*Christmas
*seeds	15	24	33	44
were	16	under	fat	45
7	four	25	pumpkins	46
bite	grandfather	bees	34	47
*bone	summer	sting	Halloween	48
8	weeks	zzzzz	jack-o'-lantern	
bill	year			
teeth				

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SING CANARY SING

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